

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO REV. DONALD W. MORGAN

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding individual, Rev. Donald Walker Morgan of Wethersfield, CT; who is retiring as the senior minister of the First Church of Christ in Wethersfield, CT. During his 18-year tenure as the spiritual leader of the historic Wethersfield Church which dates back to 1635. Reverend Morgan has significantly contributed to the growth of the church membership bringing it to over 2,800 members—the largest, fastest growing congregational-UCC Church in New England.

Born in Lexington, MA, Donald Morgan served in World War II as a member of a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber crew. For over 2 years, he was part of the 8th Air Force Division in Great Britain, and flew numerous missions over Germany. He then matriculated at Tufts University in Boston where he received a bachelor of science degree in clinical psychology. Reverend Morgan earned a master of divinity degree from the Union Theological Seminary in New York, and was ordained to the Christian ministry in 1953.

Since 1953, Reverend Morgan has served in churches in Northfield, VT; Litchfield, CT; Rutland, VT; and Lakewood, OH. In June 1978, Reverend Morgan accepted the senior minister position at First Church in Wethersfield, CT. Reverend Morgan brought new vitality and a dynamic vision reaching well beyond the confines of the historic colonial community. He expanded the services of the church by providing new ministries in a myriad of social and religious areas and hired professional staff to handle the administrative affairs of the church.

The Reverend Donald W. Morgan is currently chairman of Churches Uniting in Global Mission, a national movement of pastors and churches and is frequently a featured speaker at the Robert Schuller Institute for Successful Church Leadership. He is the author of "How To Get It Together When Your World Is Coming Apart," published in 1988, and "Sermons In American History," an acclaimed volume which addresses selected issues in the American pulpit from 1630 to the present. Reverend Morgan's ministry and church have been cited in two recent publications "How To Reach Secular People" by George Hunter, and "Good News From Growing Churches" by Robert Burt.

He is married to the former Alice Grace Gingles of Bowling Green, KY, a graduate of Wellesley College and Union Theological Seminary who had served until recently as the director of Caring Ministries at the First Church in Wethersfield, CT. They have 6 children and 13 grandchildren.

Reverend Donald Morgan is a nationally respected spiritual leader who with dedicated fortitude and vision transformed a colonial era church into one of the most dynamic, energetic religious institutions in New England.

Having participated in a service or two at First Church, I can attest to the great works of Reverend Morgan and the impact he has had on the lives of those in his congregation and community. His calling to First Church was fortunate for the church community, the town of Wethersfield, the greater Hartford region and the State of Connecticut.

We recognize his achievements. We have learned from his example. He has touched the lives of many in so many ways. We sincerely extend our wishes of gratitude and wish him the best upon his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NEAL R. BERTE

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, AL, one of the Nation's top liberal arts colleges, is observing the twentieth anniversary of Dr. Neal R. Berte as its President. Dr. Berte came to Birmingham-Southern on February 1, 1976 from the University of Alabama, where he was the Vice President for Educational Development and the Dean of the New College. Under Dr. Berte's two decades of leadership, Birmingham-Southern College has seen its enrollment more than double, its students' test scores rise to among the highest in the Southeast, its faculty size which includes some of the finest scholars in the country, increase more than 60 percent, its endowment grow from fourteen million dollars to more than eighty-two million dollars, the construction of seven new buildings with more planned, and its graduates accepted to the nation's top medical and law schools at rates far exceeding the national average. These achievements have not gone unnoticed. Respected publications such as U.S. News and World Report, Money, and The Princeton Review consistently name Birmingham-Southern College as one of the country's outstanding liberal arts colleges. Dr. Berte's untiring dedication to education has been recognized by many organizations, including the American Council on Education, which named him one of America's Leaders in Higher Education, and the Council For Advancement and Support of Education, which selected him as one of the 100 Most Effective College Presidents. Dr. Berte is also a respected civic leader in Birmingham who is dedicated to improving the quality of life for his city and state. He is chairman of Leadership Birmingham and the Birmingham Business Leadership Group, which is made up of the chief executive officers of 45 of Birmingham's largest businesses. Dr. Berte has served as chairman of the Birmingham Area Chamber of Commerce, and campaign chairman and president of the United Way of Central Alabama. For his civic and community leadership, he has received many honors, including being named Birmingham's citizen of the year and being inducted into the city's Distinguished Gallery of Honor. Working with Dr. Berte dur-

ing his 20 years at Birmingham-Southern College is his wife, the First Lady of Birmingham-Southern, Anne Berte, a tireless civic and community leader in her own right. I want to congratulate Neal and Anne Berte on the outstanding job they have done at Birmingham-Southern College during the past 20 years, and I wish them continued happiness and success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES-RUSSELL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, on April 28, 1996, Charles-Russell International will gather its 150 employees, well wishers and followers to celebrate 25 years of creative hairstyling and entrepreneurship. The vision toward new trends in hair styling and hair care can be credited to a man arriving on the American scene some three decades ago.

Born in Leicester, England in May 1938, Edward Joseph Russell Breakwell earned his stylist stripes in the hairdressing industry as an apprentice to Steiner's of Mayfair, in London. At 21 years of age he owned his first salon and traveled as a guest lecturer to the United States. Impressed by the country, he moved to the Washington, D.C. area and worked for the Vincent and Vincent chain of salon, eventually acquiring one of them. Later, he entered into a joint venture with another businessman, Charles Morra, and together they established the first Charles-Russell salon on Quaker Lane in Alexandria, VA.

Today, the Charles-Russell enterprise consists of 12 salons throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The joint venture between Charles and Russell has contributed greatly to the economic development of the community, including restaurant ownership and a major construction company, C-R Properties.

There is much discussion nowadays about immigrants coming to the United States and the myth that they take from our society and our social safety net. To the contrary, the hard work and contributions of Charles-Russell, has added to the wealth of this country and has translated into careers and the well-being of many families. Russell Breakwell epitomizes this vision and contribution to our society.

Russell Breakwell today, is an American citizen who participates not only in the business arena, but in the civic affairs of his community in Lake Barcroft, VA. He is married to the former Laurie Jones, who along with their 5-year-old child, Charles, reside in Lake Barcroft and the Florida Keys. A source of much pride and father-son kinship 22-year old Alexander Breakwell is following in this father's footsteps as a hairdresser at Charles-Russell.

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